

Abstract

Title: Changes in deep and superficial sensations in depression

Objectives: The theoretical part of this study aims to summarize the issues related to depression and sensory modalities in general. The goal of the practical aspect is to conduct an experiment that evaluates changes in superficial and deep sensations in depression at different stages of the mental illness in five patients. We evaluated sensations of thermal stimuli, tactile stimuli, vibrations and pain.

Methods: The practical part describes the sensation analysis for each patient individually. The changes in deep and superficial sensations are compared in states of worse and lighter depression. There is also a suggested possibility for statistical evaluation of the interdependence between the severity of depression and selected modalities of sensation using the Wilcoxon test for two dependent samples.

Results: The vibrating sensation in the upper left limb and algid sensation in the upper right extremity proved (on the chosen level of significance) the null hypothesis which stated that changes in sensation depend on changes in the state of depression. A sense of vibration in the upper right extremity, a sense of pain in the upper left limb and other sensory modalities present in both upper extremities were accepted (on the chosen level of significance) as the alternative hypothesis that sensations do not change with the state of depression.

Keywords: deep sensation, superficial sensation, depression, physiotherapy